

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2, indicated to include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,550,513 (Wong). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. As to independent claim 8, Wong nowhere teaches, at least, a current source coupled between first and second output transmission lines of a distributed differential amplifier stage. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claim 8 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 14, indicated to include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 11 and its dependent claims are patentable.

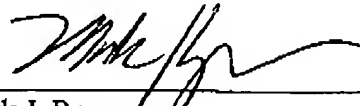
Claim 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Wong in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,130,423 (Brehmer). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. In this regard, neither reference anywhere teaches or suggests a differential end termination interface that is unconnected to a power supply or ground potential. In this regard, the Office Action contends that various resistors or capacitors of Wong "can be read as differential end termination interface". Office Action, p. 2. However, note that such resistors and capacitors of Wong are coupled to either a supply voltage or ground. *E.g.*, Wong, FIG. 1. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claim 16 and its dependent claims are patentable.

Claim 23 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 24, indicated to have allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 23 and its dependent claims are patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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